#### CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

By Dick Donovan.

For some time the passengers by the steamers of the Mediterranean and Orient Steam Navigation Company complained bitterly that things were stolen from their cabins, and that their luggage was frequently broken open and valuables abstri ed. These robberies were conducted in such a mysterious way and the complaints became so numerous that the directors felt bound in their own interests to take some active measures to discover the thief or thieves. On the very face of it it seemed that several persons must be concerned, for only by a systematic and organized conspiracy could such a series of robberies have been perpetrated; and it was no less certain that the robbers were as bold as they were expert. The result was I was requested to take the matter up and endeavor to bring the rascals to justice. In making my investigations into all the circumstances I found that generally the robberies had been committed between Bordeaux and Lisbon, both places being ports of call for the company's steamers. This fact was very significant, and seemed to me to point to Bordeaux or Lisbon as the headquarters of the operators. And the more I pursued my inquiries the more convinced was I that a very clever hand was at work, and that it might not be an easy task to detect them. For being expert thieves, and belonging-if I may express myself-to the upper classes of thieves, they were not likely to be caught napping. By using the term "upper classes" in this sense, I refer, of course, to

sail in the company's steamer Orinoco, which left Gravesend on the 12th of June, and made a fine run down to Plymouth. I my own name, but for the nonce assumed that of Charles Erkroyd Freemantle. When we left Gravesend we had ninetytwo first-class passengers and eighty-four second-class. During the run to Plymouth, as the weather was particularly line and the sea as smooth as a mill-pond, I had ample opportunity of taking stock of my fellow-voyagers. A good many of them were old Australian colonists, returning to their homes after a visit to the mother country. The rest were of the usual miscellaneous and nonof the usual miscellaneous and nondescript characters beculiar to all
passenger steamers trading to the colonies.
There was the well-to-do horse-dealer,
whose calling was indicated in his dress,
his style, his movements, his talk, his
voice, the cut of his hair, the trim of his
beard, for it is a well-known fact that men
who are constantly with horses develop
certain horsey characteristics by which
they are easily distinguished. There were
men leaving home for the first time to seek
their fortunes, and women going out to
join their husbands or lovers, and others
going on speculation in the hope of getting
husbands. There were pretty girls and
ngly girls, adventurous widows and selfish
bachelors, who, while ready enough for a
mild flirtation, were not to be entrapped by female charms. Altogether
there was nothing to distinguish the
human cargo from the passengers
usually found on board of any ocean
steamer of the same class. No doubt each
had his or her little romance, and the stories had his or her little romance, and the stories of their lives would probably have made absorbing reading—highly sensational in many cases; pathetic or humorous in others. But a number of persons thus thrown promiscuously together for a brief period usually remain sealed books to each other except in certain cases, and an outsider can only speculate as to what they are and what they are likely to be. To me the study of human nature is of fascinating interest, but in the present instance I was intent on trying to get a clew that would enable me to detect the perpetrators of the numerous robberies. Amongst all the passengers, however, there was not one who aroused however, there was not one who aroused my suspicions, but, of course, I was not indifferent to the fact that the voyage was then young; we were all strangers to each other, and it would take some days before

the icy barriers which characterize a Brit-ish gathering were broken down. At Plymouth our number of saloon passengers was increased by twenty others, male and female. And amongst them was a clergyman, whose name I ascertained a little later was Horace Venables-the Rev. Horace Venables-who, as he himself informed me, was traveling for his health. He was a young man of about thirty-two, very gentlemanly in his manner, and of | an good address. And yet, somehow-I could scarcely explain why it was-I very soon be gan to think that the Rev. Horace Venables was not altogether what he represented himself to be. On the second day after leaving Plymouth a gale sprang up, and the reverend gentleman was, or pretended be, prostrated with sea-sick-As we neared Bordeaux. was our next port of call, the weather became beautifully fine again, and all the passengers were up but the Rev. Horace Venables. As soon as we anchored in Bordeaux, however, he appeared on deck once more looking very sprightly and anything but an invalid. As we were likely to be detained for at least twelve hours, nearly all the passengers went on shore, including Horace Venables; and I was also among the number. My fellow-travelers were, of course, intent on sightseeing, but I, knowing Bordeaux well, devoted my attention to the Rev. Venables. whose movements certainly seemed to me to be strange, and not in accordance with what one might have expected from a clergyman who was desirous of making himself agreeable. He showed, for instance, a very pronounced desire to be left alone, and though he was invited by a party of ladies and gentlemen to accompany them. for it had been early discovered, in some way, that he spoke French fluently, he declined, without, however, making the slightest excase for so doing. As I was aware of this little fact the suspicious I had begun to entertain were strengthened, and so I resolved to shadow the interesting gentleman without his being aware of it. He did not go ashore until all the others had gone, and then he took a fiacre and drove to a distant part of the town, where he slighted at the door of a house and ringing the bell he was admitted

It was now very evident that he was no stranger in Bordeaux, and I ascertained that the gentleman he inquired for was a Monsieur Eugene Guigon, who was said to into smoother water and the sun shone be a wine merchant. I will frankly confess here that at this stage it seemed to me had done the Rev. Horace Venaples a wrong in entertaining suspicion against him. Nevertheless, with the pertinacity which is part of my nature, I could not bring myself to abandon my man, for I was not yet satisfied that I was wrong, although it seemed, I say, like it at that point. Though, let it not be supposed I was deceived by mere appearances. Two hours passed, and then the Rev. Horace Venables reappeared, accompanied

by the concierge and for the time I lost

by a very venerable and gentlemanly-look-ing man, whom I concluded was Monsieur Guigen. The two drove to a fashionable cafe in the heart of town, where they partook of a very substantial repast, which included two or three sorts of wine, to which the Rev. Venables did ample justice. The Inneheon finished, they adjourned to the outside of the cafe, where they lit their cigars and ordered coffee and cognac. Whatever else my man might be, I had seen

Venables remained together for some hours longer. Then they parted, and the clergy-man returned to the ship. I followed him soon after, and I bad no reason to suppose he had been conscious for a moment that he had been shadowed.

We weighed anchor at midnight and proceeded to sea, and the following day a lady complained that a quantity of very valuable jewelry had been stolen from her box in her cabin. She had seen it safely three or four days previously, and as the lock of the box was intact, it was evident it had been picked or opened by means of a skeleton key. This discovery led to others being made, and there was a general complaint amongst the ladies that they had lost articles of jewelry.

A careful consideration of all the circumstances seemed to point to the robberies having been effected before the vessel reached Bordeaux, and now my suspicions against the Rev. Horace Venables were not only revived but increased ten-fold. But of course suspicion was not proof, and the immediate difficulty was to get proof. It would have been a dangerous proceeding to have openly accused the anspected man

would have been a dangerous proceeding to have openly accused the suspected man. Moreover, there was another aspect to the case which I could not overlook, and that was to determine under what jurisdiction the crime had been committed. It was a British ship sailing under a British flag, and yet the robberies might have taken place in French waters. But even then it was a nice point to determine whether the thief would be amenable to British or French law Thesituation was a delicate one French law. The situation was a delicate one and in the event of a false accusation the consequences might be serious. I resolved, consequences might be serious. I resolved, therefore, to act with the greatest circumspection, and I took counsel with the captain, who further strengthened my suspicions by saying that he believed he recognized in the Rev. Horace Venables a man who had sailed with him before as a merchant. He confessed, however, that he could not be sure about it, nevertheless I thought it probable, and resolved on the course to pursue. I found that the suspected passenger had only booked as far as Lisbon, and so I decided to land there, too, but took every precaution not to let this be known.

In accordance with my instructions, I set tion with the police authorities, but every saloon, and I called upon him to help me. one knows what a wretched, dilatory lot they are, and how they are enveloped and enslaved with red tape. All sorts of obneed scarcely say, perhaps, that I did not | stacles were thrown in my way, and the appear amongst the list of passengers in one question that was dinned into my

"Have you any proof, signor; have you

Of course I had no proof, but my suspicions were well-founded. The frowsy Portuguese officials, however, simply shrugged their shoulders, smoked their cigarettes, and coolly told me they could render me any assistance whatever. I therefore appealed to the custom-house authorities, and treated them to make the fullest examination of the Rev. Horace Venables's luggage, in the hope that some of the stolen property might be discovered amongst it, whereby I should have very tangible eviwhereby I should have very tangible evidence, and the police would then probably arrest him. A promise was given that this search should be made and I was present, although the fact was unknown to Venables, when his baggage was subjected to the scrutiny of the custom-house people. He betrayed not the slightest concern, but calmiy and philosophically smoked a cigar, as well he might, for, in spite or a crucial examination, nothing whatever was found in his luggage of an incriminating character; and the police again shrugged their shoulders and laughed satirically at me, saying if they had been led by me they would have committed a grave error.

saying if they had been led by me they would have committed a grave error.

Although up to now I had failed, I was not going to abandon Mr. Venables. He might be all that he professed to be, but to my mind there was a something very fishy about him, and, though it took me a year to do it, I was determined to find out all there was to find out about the Rev. Horace Venables. The Orinoco proceeded on her voyage, leaving him and me in Lisbon; and then the first thing I did was to wire a cipher message to Scotland Yard, asking them to let me know if Mr. Venables's name appeared in the clergy list, and soon name appeared in the clergy list, and soon the answer "No" came back. Here, then, was the first distinct confirmation and justification of my suspicions. It was now clear that Venables, by passing himself off as a clergyman, was in that respect, at least, an impostor, and some deep and dark design must have been at deep and dark design must have been at the bottom of it. It became more apparent to me every day that he was an old hand, and by no means disposed to give himself away if he could help it, and therefore he acted with great circumspection, and though he stayed at one of the best hotels, he remained very quiet and kept himself secluded. And all this time, but quite unknown to him, I acted like his shadow, and his movements were all known to me. Hence it was I ascertained that he had booked a passage for England in one of the same company's return steamers called the Shoehaven, which was then expected in port from her southern voyage in a few days. It woes without saying that I also engaged a berth in the same boat, and I felt perfectly convinced now in my own mind perfectly convinced now in my own mind that Venables was a rank impostor, and

was playing a deep and dark game against the interests of law and order, and which it was my duty to defeat. In due course the Shoehaven came in. She had a full complement of passengers, and most of them being people of means their belongings were likely to prove rich spoil for an adventurer who had no regard for the laws of meum et teum. The vessel was detained at Lisbon considerably longer than usual owing to some defect in her machinery, which had to be made good before she could proceed. She therefore did not weigh anchor again until the evening

of the third day after her arrival. As soon as I went on board I made known my business to the captain, and he promised to afford me every possible facility for detecting the thief, if he was on board. The weather at this period had undergone a very considerable change, and immediately the ship was clear of the Tagus she experienced heavy gales, and carried them with her right to Bordeaux. As she was not a good sea boat in a sea way, but rolled heavily, most of the passengers were confined to their cabins, and to this cause, as I presumed, my "suspect" was unable to operate. At any rate, closely as I watched him I saw nothing that could be taken as proof of my suspicions, and had I been less hard to convince I might have abandoned the chase under the impression that I was on a wrong scent. But I would not do that, for it was beyond dispute that Venables was sailing under false colors, and he must have had some strong motive for that. During the run to Bordeaux he kept himself very secluded, and did not mix much with his fellow-travelers. At Bordeaux he went ashore and once again visited Monsieur Guigon, and again they dined to-

The bad weather continued after we left the French port, and the passage through the Bay of Biscay was unusually stormy for the time of year. But at last we ran brightly as we neared Plymouth, our next port of call. Of course all the passengers were more or less excited at the prospect of once more beholding their native shores, and they crowded the decks, anxious to get the first glimpse of land. My vigilance was now redoubled, for I was sure that if Venables meant business he would not let

this opportunity slip. One evening when we were expecting to sight the Eddystone every one had crowded to the poop and other parts of the vessel, and eagerly scanned the horizon for the flashing of the welcome beacon. Mr. Venables had been sitting in the saloon reading, or pretending to read, and on a settee in the extreme end of the saloon and in deep shadow so that I could not be seen by any one only a little way off, I lay in a position sufficient to warrant me in saying that he was a lover of the flesh-ints of Egypt, and in my life. Presently, Venables rose, walked to the door of the saloon and went on deck. But he returned in the saloon and went on deck.

was reconnoitering. Then he walked round the saloon, pausing now and again as if in the attitude of listening. I was all alert now, for I felt as if some important developments were about to take place. At last he disappeared in one of the entrances, and as I knew that his cabin was not there, I knew that he was trespassing. I therefore moved stealthly forward until I commanded a view of the entrance. He had gone into one of the two cabins there. It was one of the best staterooms, occupied by an Australian lady and her daughter, who were reputed to be very rich. I listened, straining my hearing to catch any sound; and I did hear sounds that left no doubt in my mind that the Rev. Venables was manipulsting the lock of a chest. I waited long enough to let him complete his work; then I crept down the entrance silently and peeped in. Venables was then down on his knees engaged in searching the cabin box of one of the ladies, the lock having been undone by means of a skeleton key. So intent was he in his work that he did not notice me. Presently he found a small case—the lid of which he forced open with a tiny chisel he took from his coat pocket. The case contained jewelry which he immediately proceeded to manipulate, and abstracting it he stuffed it into his pocket.

At this interesting stage of the little

At this interesting stage of the little drama I stepped softly into the cabin, and laying my hand on the rascal's shoulder I "It seems to me, sir, that you are an in-truder here and engaged in an illegal oc-

He sprang to his feet suddenly. He was white as death, and his face was filled with a scared look. "What do you mean?" he asked hoarsely. "I mean that you are a thief and an im-

deadly pale.
"I am a detective," I said, "especially commissioned to shadow you. I have shadowed you for weeks, and have at last caught you in the act, and now make you

classes" in this sense, I refer, of course, to the swell mobsmen, who have not only capital to work with, but conduct their operations on a thoroughly organized business system. Moreover, as such men are fully alive to the risks they run, they keep a very sharp lookout, and their spies are constantly on the alert.

Thought it probable, and recoived on the course to pursue. I found that the suspected passenger had only booked as far as Lisbon, and so I decided to land there, too, but took every precaution not to let this be known.

III.

As soon as Lisbon was reached I hurried ashore, and placed myself in communication of the stewards, who had just entered the course to pursue. I found that the suspected passenger had only booked as far as Lisbon, and so I decided to land there, too, but took every precaution not to let this be known.

For a moment he seemed to reel, as if he were going to fall, but, with a quick, sudden movement, he sprang towards the door and tried to pass me. I was too sharp for him, however. Nevertheless he struggled desperately, trying to get his hands to my throat, but I pinned him against the edge of one of the stewards, who had just entered the course to pursue. I found that the suspected passenger had only booked as far as Lisbon, and so I decided to land there, too, but took every precaution not to let this be known.

III.

As soon as Lisbon was reached I hurried ashore, and placed myself in communication. With his assistance I soon had the hand-cutts on the wrists of the Rev. Mr. Ven-

With his assistance I soon had the handcuffs on the wrists of the Rev. Mr. Venables, and when he found that his game
was up he began to whine for mercy. I
sent at once for the captain, and by his advice I removed my prisoner to one of the
deck cabins, where we securely bound him
to a stanchion and kept watch and ward
over him, for I was fearful that he would
commit suicide if he got the chance. However, the chance did not occur.

About midnight we dropped anchor in
Plymouth sound, and as soon after as possible I conveyed my prisoner ashore, and
soon had him in safe-keeping in the police
station. He had become sullen and silent
now, resolutely refusing to answer any
questions. On searching his baggage we
found a great quantity of small articles,
mostly jewelry which had obviously been
stolen, and much of which was subsequently claimed by the passengers on board the
Shoehaven. Papers and letters in his
trunks also proved that he was one
of the ringleaders of a clever and
notorious gang of rascals, who had
spread their ramifications far and wide.
Eugene Guigon, of Bordeaux, was one of
the confederates, his principal duty being
to dispose of the stolen property. Venables proved to be a convict by the name
of Walter Richards, who had suffered two
terms of imprisonment, both for forgeries.
He was a member of a very good family,
and had been well educated, but had never
done any good for himself, and all the efforts of his friends to reclaim him proved
fruitless.

After repeated remands he was sent for

After repeated remands he was sent for trial, and we were enabled to get such evidence that the jury had no difficulty in convicting him, and the judge denounced him as not only "a pest to society." but "a dangerous and accomplished villain." And in order to stop his career of villain." And in order to stop his career of villainy for a time he received a sentence of ten years' penal servitude. Guigon was also brought to book by the French authorities, and received a due meed of punishment.

I was complimented on the part I had played, and I had the satisfaction of knowing that I was instrumental in stopping the

ing that I was instrumental in stopping the "Rev. Horace Venables's" little game for

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WHAT WOMEN ARE WEARING.

The fancy for old jewelry is bringing to light some very handsome relics. Silk stockings are to be found to match every color of satin, silk, tulie and cloth. The daintiest are embroidered in silk and

Bias seams upon skirt and bodice still continue in favor. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that bias effects lend themselves so readily and easily to the lines of the

A novelty skirt-foundation has been re-

vorite being the early English. The bodice is out round, with rounding neck and belted waist at the front and rosetted back. With this is worn a gimp of any material preferred. The sleeves are very full and caught here and there with small resettes. The inartistic effect of light-colored gloves, except for dressy evening wear. is now acknowledged, and the pale heliotrope and corn colors of former days are almost forgotten, and fortunate is the change of fashion in this respect for those whose hands err in size on the side of usefulness. A light glove adds to the apparent size, and for this reason the most becoming gloves that a woman can choose are black or very dark tan or brown.

A new round-waisted French dress is finished with pointed bretelles that reach a trifle below the waist line back and front. This mode gives the ingenious dress-maker every opportunity to display the perfection of her taste in trimming. Where the bretelle is made of velvet it is studded with nail heads. Collars and sleeves must, of course, be of the same material. Many of these bretelles are exquisitely embroidered, others finished with gimp ribbons

The number of different sleeves worn this winter is marvelous. They are almost as varied as the dress fabrics, yet, when studied, they are discovered to be outgrowths of the Catherine de Medici or Valois sleeve, and the full bishop model with its deep cuff. The style of sleeve, close on the lower arm and ample and rather high at the top, is used on any and all costumes, and for cloaks, jackets, teagowns, and even night-dresses. This is the outline of the ruling model, but the manipplation and artistic adjustment of the hundreds of materials and trimmings forming it transform it into numberless varieties. A fashion writer says: Our best modistes complain of the perversity of American women in clinging, once they have become

wedded to any particular style, to this espectal mode. The head of a first-class establishment declares that it is simply impossible to secure any converts to the short bodice, although she solemnly assures her patrons that in Paris stylish ones wear only the tiny point back and front. The same etory is told by the importer, and yet, ex-cepting among ultra fashionables, only the long-skirted bodice is favored. It is the same way with the trained skirt. It is no longer worn by the stylish Parisian, and yet half the women in this country are

sweeping the streets with their draperies. A Literary Note.

Publisher-Hello, old man! I haven't met you in years; in fact, not since we left school. How have you been getting along? Visitor-1 have made a cool million out Publisher- Gee Whillikins! and I hadn't heard of it. Say, can't I induce you to write an article for my magazine on "The Intellectual Decadence of Modern Eu-

rope!" The Secret of It.

City Sportsman (with \$60 outfit)-Well, boy, you seem to catch more fish than I do. Monsieur Guigon and the Rev. Horace and his movements convinced me that he You bet. There ain't no flies on my hook. and assistant missionaries, of whom 588 are | gerous crags and trackless morasses.

## BOSTON DRY GOODS CO.'S JANUARY SALE.

# MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

6c Bleached Linen Crash at......037 121c Checked Glass Tow-45c Bleached Cream Table Damask at ...... .39

mask, 66-in. wide at .50 69c Fine Soft German Table Damask at..... .50 85c Extra Fine Irish Table Damask at... .69

#### Fringe Table Cloths.

Cloths at..... Cloth at ......\$1.00 \$2.00 quality Fringe Cloth at......\$1.50 NAPKINS.

\$1.00 Soft-Bleach German Napkins, per dozen ..... 1.25 Soft-Bleach German Napkins, per dozent, at.....\$1.00 \$1.50 3 Bleached Irish

Napkins, per dozen, at......\$1.19 \$2.00 Extra Extra-Fine Napkins, per dozen, at.....\$1.69 \$3.00 \ Extra Fine.

Extra Handsome, per dozen, at......\$2.00 We guarantee every item to prove their value on examination.

BOSTON DRY GOODS CO., 26 and 28 West Washington St.

### TOWELS

Never were such Bargains laid down in Indianapolis. All-Linen Huck Towels, 10c wonder at...... 6 for 50c

All-Linen Damask Towels, knotted fringe, size 18 by 19 inches, match if you 121c 25 All-Linen Huck and

Damask Towels, "The early bird 19c catches the worm," at 1,000 Extra Large Damask Towels, extra fine knotted fringe, 22c a great bargain, at... 33c quality Damaskand

Huck Towels, 10 styles, the biggest towel made, measuring 24 by 50 inchesat, 25c

### DOYLIES

Many housekeepers wait for this Annual Sale. The shrewder ones buy not only for present needs, but with one eye far into the future.

BOSTON DRY GOODS CO., 26 and 28 West Washington St.

### MUSLINS.

6c 4-4 Brown Muslin at..... 1,500 yards Lonsdale Cambrics, never sold

less than 12½c, at... .08¾ BED SPREADS. 85c full-size Fine Crochet Spread at..... \$1.25 extra size fine Crochet Spreads at \$2.00 extra size fine

Crochet Spreads at \$1.69 50c Cream Brilliant-\$2.50 extra size fine Marseilles Spreads at...... \$1.89 | 65c Black Mohair lus-

\$1.50 full size Colored Spreads at...... \$1.25 | 75c Black Brilliant-PRINTS. Remnants, 8-yard

lengths...... .19 FASCINATORS. Pink, Light Blue and Blacks, made out of Germantown

Wool, at..... UNDERWEAR SPECIALS. Ladies' Wool Jersey-ribbed Vests, consid-

erably soiled, worth 75c, at..... Ladies' all-Wool Fast Black Jersey Vests at..... Gents' Scotch-mixed Gray Shirts, worth

50c, at..... Bargains?

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#### READING FOR SUNDAY.

The Mystery of Pain.

Sed heart, be strong! The sun is shining still
Behind the clouds that hide the fair blue sky;
We must not seek to know the reason why
We suffer pain; the loving Father's will
Through well or ill, without a doubt or sigh
We must accept as good for us and best,
For ah! sometimes He tries us hard to test
Our love and faith, but He is ever nigh!

Oh, help us, God! be with us through the day.
And all the long, dark night! We have no fear,
But trust Thee, knowing Thou art ever near;
Hear us, O Father, as we humbly pray!
And when Thy crown of patience we attain,
Then we shall know the mystery of pain.

-Henry Coyle, in Boston Journal. International Sunday-School Lesson for Jan. 24, 1892. HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER AND DELIVERANCE. Isaiah xxxvii, 14-21, 33-38.)

Golden Text-Prov. xxxiv, 17. HOME READINGS. ceived with marked favor. It is of linen, and may be found in almost all the fashionable tints. It is said to be unsurpassed for its wearing qualities.

The tea-gown for very young women is fashioned in many quaint styles, the favorite being the early English. The holders.

Monday ... leaish xxxvii, 14-20.

Tuesday ... Isaish xxxvii, 21, 33-38.

Wednesday ... Pealm xiiv, 15-26.

Friday ... Pealm xii.

Saturday ... Pealm xxxi, 14-24.

Sunday ... Pealm xxxvii, 1-17.

COMMENTS ON THE LESSON The Independent. As seen as Hezekiah heard bad news he went to the Lord with it. That is the best kind of an example. Trouble brings people to God. If one will not go to God at other times he must be far gone in impiety

in sorrow. Better then than never. But Hezekiah could consistently go to God then, for he had all his life set his heart to seek his God. It is full of comfort to go to God in trial if one has found God good and fatherly in his joys. People might have said to Hezekiah:

if he does not think of his heavenly Father

"What can your God do to help you against this great host?" That is just what Rabshakeh said to him. But prayer and faith sought God, and God found a way. We potice the peculiar faith of Hezekiah that there was only one true God. It was the temptation of the Jews to believe that Jehovah was their national God, and that Baal was equally the God of the Phenicians, and Osiris of the Egyptians, thus reducing their God to an equality with heathen gods. Hezekiah had risen to the sublime conception of one only God. Apparent impossibilities do not stand in the way of God's power to help. The king of Assyria was near by with a mighty army. There was no one to help. Egypt was powerless. Submission seemed the only course, which meant destruction. But God had His unexpected means of deliver-ance. No army could stand against pesti-

No doubt this pestilence came by natural causes, just as all plagues, and cholera, and yellow fever, and typhoid fever does now. Had sanitary precautions been taken the plague would not have occurred. But God used His own natural laws, which punish filth, to destroy this army. If God could hear Hezekiah in his great trouble He can hear us in our smaller trials. We may come boidly unto the throne of

Hezekiah considered the reproach of God as well as the loss to himself if the Assyrione should capture the city. We should love God's cause and pray for that. There is danger in praying for temporal mercies, of being selfish in our prayers.

It is not called faith, but faith it was that Hezekiah exercised toward God. He trusted God against all the world. That is to be our attitude. Do right, trust God, in all circumstances and against all odds.

Mr. Ezra Bostwick, of Union City, Mich. who recently gave \$172,000 to educational and religious institutions, presented the Congregational Church at Union City with \$5,000 on New Year's. In Paris ninety-three religious periodicals are published. Of these sixty-seven are Roman Catholic, twenty-three Protestant, and three Jewish. Proportionally, Prot-

estantism has the largest number of these

Of General Interest,

The American Board of Foreign Missions

now in its service. Into the nearly five hundred churches which have been organized by these missionaries there have been received on confession of their faith in Christ about a hundred and twenty thousand members. The total receipts from the beginning have been over \$25,000,000.

A committee has been appointed to attend the Baltimore Plenary Council in order to arrange for the holding of an international Catholic congress in Chicago, Sept. 5 to 9, 1893, in connection with the world's fair. Fourteen acres of land just north of Washington city, the estimated worth of which is \$200,000, has been donated by

Messrs, Newlands & Waggaman as a site for the proposed Protestant Episcopal Cathedral at the national capital. The work of the Salvation Army in France is conducted at 216 stations and

France is conducted at 216 stations and ontposts, in twenty-three of the departments of France and ten of the Swiss cantons. There are 430 French and Swiss officers aided by 800 local officers. Three Salvation papers, two in French, and one in German for North Switzerland, are issued, and 24,000 copies are weekly set before the people in every possible way. The hymn-book, recently published, has reached a sale of 84,000 copies in the year. a sale of 84,000 copies in the year.

At a recent meeting of the African Society at Cologne a number of letters were presented from missionaries giving frightful details concerning the cruelties of the horde carrying on the slave trade. Those who were too weak to march were killed. the number of those thus perishing rising as high as fifty a day. In spite of this the party arrived at Kirando, on the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika, Dec. 13, with nearly two thousand slaves. This news strengthens the appeal to the English government for the strengthening of its colonies, as the only means of effectually overthrowing the business.

Thoughts for the Day. Learn the luxury of good, doing .- Gold-In character, in manners, in style, in all

things, the supreme excellency is simplicity.—H. W. Longfellow. The only slave on God's earth that needs no compassion and pity is the slave of love. -Henry Ward Beecher.

The world says, "Come to me, and I will fail you;" the tiesh says, "Come to me and I will destroy you;" Christ says, "Come to me and I will give you rest."—St. Bernard. Unbelief does nothing but darken and destroy. It makes the world a moral desert, where no divine footsteps are heard, where no angels ascend and descend, where no living band adorns the fields, feeds the birds of heaven or regulates events.-Krummacher.

FATHER TOM OF CARNA DEAD, The Conemara Priest and His Noble Work Among His People, New York Recorder.

The English papers announce the sudden death of Father T. J. Flannery ("Father Tom"), of Carna. Father Tom would have been a remarkable personality anywhere. He was a practical man-knew all about making roads, constructing bridges, building boats and sailing them. His activity and energy were surprising. Only such a man could attend to the needs of such a parish, a considerable portion of which consisted of islands; but he had a smart boat for the water and a smart pony for the land, and a frame which appeared never to know fatigue, and he so managed to visit the cabins and hovels and to learn the needs of every family. At the door of his church in Carns, when some collection was being made for the Pope, not a soul was allowed to leave without being personally scolded or praised by the priest. It was "Now. Biddy, faix an' his Holiness will be ashamed to receive a solitary supence from the like of yourself," or "Molly, sure an' a shilling's very handsome for a lone widow, an' it's your name will go to his Holiness in front of it. Each appeal was followed by a good-natured slap on the back or a twitch at the ear. The people adored him, as well they might, for it wanted a hero to be an efficient priest at Carna. That wild parish stretches for many miles along the Conemara coast, and is a mere waste of rocks. bogs, meres and salt-water inlets. Often "Father Tom" would be called up at midnight to administer the sacraments in some was organized on June 29, 1810. During the | distant part of his parish which he could past eighty-one years of its history it has only reach by the help of relays of peas-

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

It takes more than one hundred bees to A stick of timber 20x20x91 feet was re-cently cut in Oregon and shipped to San

A hole one one-thousandth of an inch in diameter can now be bored through a diamond, a sapphire or a ruby. In Japan, it is said, there are apple trees growing four inches in height, which bear fruit freely about the size of currants. A gold nugget weighing six and a half pounds was found in the Brandy Flat ce-ment mine, near Washington, Nev., last

Recently at Amador, Cal., a block of marble weighing one bundred tons was quarried and cut up into columns for a new

It is the Roumanian practice to plant a flower on the wall of every cottage in which a maiden lives. When she marries the flower is effaced.

Europe signifies a country of white com-plexion: so named because the inhabitants there were of a fairer complexion than those of Asia and Africa.

ning turned a dark purple, and has remained so ever since. A walnut tree six and one-half feet in diameter and eighty feet to the first branch will be the unique exhibit of a Missouri town at the world's fair. There are now twenty-one law firms in

the United States composed of husbands and wives, and there are about two hundred American ladies who practice law in the courts or manage legal publications. The great collection of postage stamps gathered by the late Mr. Tapling, and bequeathed to the British Museum, contains more than 200,000 specimens, and is valued

Sheep have two teeth in the center of the jaw at one year, and add two each year un-til five years old, when they have a "full " After that time the age cannot be told by the teeth. Cats die at an elevation of thirteen thousand feet, even though they are reputed to have "nine lives" when on a

climb the greatest known natural elevations. The civil-service records of the past three years show that out of the number of men applicants examined for government of fices only a little over one-half passed, while four-fifths of the women applicants

level with the ocean. Dogs and men can

passed. Yeast, it is said, has been successfully tried for typhoid fever, and in cases where it has been used no relapses have followed. It is supposed that the yeast destroys the baccilli in the intestines and so prevents re-

Not more than ninety years ago there existed in the south of Ireland abduction clubs, whose members were bound by oath to assist in carrying off such women having money as were fixed upon, the members drawing lots to determine to whom the woman abducted should fall.

Divers who helped to lay the foundation of the great Eads bridge, at St. Louis, found that while they were under a pressure of four "atmospheres," or sixty pounds to the square inch, the ticking of a watch was absolutely painful to the ear. They also found it impossible to whistle. There are in the world 147 educational institutions called universities. The largest

is in Paris, with 9,215 students; the next in Vienna, with 6,220; the third in Berlin, with 5,527. The smallest is a branch of Durham University, Fourah Bay College, in Sierra Leone, with 12 students and five professors. Spaniels, of which there are many breeds. are supposed to have first come from Spain. from which circumstance is derived their distintive name. Charles I was an ardent admirer of a small variety of this animal. and from that arose the designation of his pets, known the world over as the King

The annual mortality of the entire human race amounts, roughly speaking, according to a French medical journal, to thirty-three millions of persons. This makes the average deaths per day over ninety-one thousand, being at the rate of 3,780 an hour, or sixty-two people every minute of the day and night the year round. A fourth of I can never get over.

Gracechurch Smith—What year, and one-half before the end of the Prospect Hytes-I was born in Brocklyn.

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seventeenth year; but the average duration of life is about thirty-eight years. Not more than one person in a hundred thousand lives to be a hundred. One may get a notion of the number of pennies lost from a history of the old half cents. Of these 800,000 were issued a few years ago. Where are they now? A few are in the cabinets of coin collectors. None have been returned to the mint for recoinage or are held by the treasury. Nobody sees them in circulation.

Small singing birds live from eight to eighteen years. Ravens have lived for almost one hundred years in captivity, and parrots longer than that. Fowls live ten to twenty years (and are then sold as spring chickens to young housekeepers.) The wild goose lives upward of one hundred years, and swans are said to have attained the age of three hundred.

According to the figures of a statistician there is little likelihood that dueling will be discontinued in Italy for a long time to come. The lover of figures has discovered that during the last decade 2,489 affairs of honor were settled by recourse to the saber, ninety by appeal to the broadsword and 179 by the use of pistola. Newspaper attacks, the statistician declares, were responsible

for the majority of the duels. During a recent thunder-storm in Maine | Three miles an hour is about the average of the gulf stream, though at certain places it attains a speed of fifty-four miles. In the Yucatan channel, for instance, where it is 90 miles wide and 1,000 fathoms deep, the current is not over a quarter of a mile an hour. In the Straits of Bemini the current is so rapid as to give the surface of the water the appearance of being a sheet of

## HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Fully Converted. Deacon Sollemm (after his cuffs and collars)-My friend, are you a Christian? Yung Lung-Yessee. Me wantee sellee wifee, an' mally pletty Sunday-school

Kindred Spirits.

"Yes, sir!" said the man from Colorado to a new acquaintance; "I believe in free sil-"So do I," replied the other. "I'm a burglar, myself."

Reasonable Enough. Harper's Weekly. Man in Wagon (who has bought an un-sound horse from the Quaker.)-No, I don't expect you to take him back. I only want you to lend me your hat and coat, so that I can sell him to somebody else.

A Sensible Dog. First Boy (defiantly)-My dog kin lick

your dog. Second Boy (valiantly)—Ef your dog licks my dog. I'll lick you. First Boy (backing off)-My dog don't wanter fight. Her Eight Hours Were Up.

Agitator-I tell you this eight-hour work-day is going to do a lot of good to the mass of employed people. By the way, Sarab, is supper ready.
Agitator's Wife-No; my eight hours was up at 5:30 to-day.

Too Much Frivolity. Farmer's Boy-There's goin' to be a min-strel show in Pinkintown next week. Can Old Rayseed-Gee whittaker! It am't a

month sence you went to th' top o' th' hill to see th' 'clipse of th' moon. D'yuh wanter be always on th' got Entirely Different

Merritt-How much did your last church Rev. Dr. Primrose-Five hundred. Merritt-I thought your salary was sev-Rev. Dr. Primrose-So it was.

A Darkened Life.

Gracechurch Smith-There is no natural disadvantage that may not be surmounted no error that may not be atoned.

Prospect Hytes—I don't know about that. began my life with a dismal mistake that